RESOLUTION 2019-2020 No. 9
LIMITATIONS ON ACCESS TO COURTHOUSE AND OTHER COUNTY FACILITIES

WHEREAS the Big Horn County Board of Commissioners verbally declared a state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic as of March 17, 2020 and adopted a written emergency declaration declaring such at a special meeting on March 30, 2020;

WHEREAS it is essential the Big Horn County government continue to provide services to the public while minimizing public interaction during this COVID-19 worldwide pandemic crisis to maintain services as long as possible, and the County will conduct regular business solely through mail, email, video conferencing, and telephone, except by appointment;

WHEREAS Wyoming Statute 18-3-103(b) states that “All county officers shall keep their offices open during the usual business hours of each day excluding Saturdays, Sundays, legal holidays and other days as established by the county commissioners through resolution;” and

WHEREAS Wyoming Statute 18-2-103 states that “each county shall provide and maintain a suitable courthouse, jail and other necessary county buildings;” and

WHEREAS this resolution will be in place until further order of the Big Horn County Board of Commissioners; and

WHEREAS the reasons for this limitation on access have been set forth in the “Big Horn County, Wyoming Emergency Declaration for COVID-19 Response” signed March 30, 2020; and

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners in and for Big Horn County, Wyoming that it is essential that the Big Horn County government continue to provide services throughout this COVID-19 (SARS-COV-2) pandemic crisis until further notice, and that pursuant to the powers granted by Wyoming Statute §18-3-103(b):

Access to the offices, Fire Halls, and facilities of Big Horn County including the Courthouse will be limited to conducting regular business with the public by employees, Department heads and elected officials solely through mail, fax, email, video conferencing and telephone, except by appointment wherein the particular Department head or elected official shall determine if a face-to-face meeting with a member of the public is necessary to conduct business with the Big Horn County Commissioners, Clerk, Fire Warden, Treasurer, Assessor, Land Planning, Engineering, Airports, Fairgrounds, County Libraries, County Attorney, and Road & Bridge.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the courts within the Big Horn County Courthouse will remain open to provide essential services to the extent required by the Wyoming Supreme Court and local judges.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Big Horn County Sheriff will continue to operate as deemed necessary by the Sheriff and the Public Health offices shall continue to operate as deemed necessary by the Big Horn County public health officer and public health nurse.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that situations involving a pandemic can be unpredictable. More restrictive exceptions may be made to this policy on a case-by-case basis in order to accomplish the mission of Big Horn County and to insure the safety of our employees, department heads, and elected officials. This policy shall remain in place until further notice.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all COVID-19 response questions and requests for information be directed to the Big Horn County, Wyoming COVID-19 Incident Command Center at (307) 568-4031 or lori.smallwood@bighorncountywy.gov. Pertinent public updated will be shared Facebook, the Big Horn County website (www.bighorncountywy.gov), and local press outlets.

Motion made, seconded and carried in a public meeting on this 7th Day of March, 2020.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS BIG HORN COUNTY, WYOMING

BY: FELIX CARRIZALES, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST: Lori Smallwood, Big Horn County Clerk